

Cipher Systems
80 Glastonbury Blvd
Glastonbury, CT 06033

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This letter is to inform you of my full support of the antitrust settlement that was reached by the Justice Department and Microsoft Corporation.

The settlement is fair and reasonable, and should be finalized as soon as possible, since Microsoft did not get off easy. In fact, Microsoft has agreed to share portions of its interfaces and protocols for its Windows operating system. This is nearly priceless intellectual property. It also agreed not to retaliate against software or hardware developers who develop or promote software that competes with Windows or that runs on software that competes with Windows. The settlement changes every aspect of the way Microsoft conducts business. I hope the settlement is finalized soon.

Thank you generously for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bert Sirkin".

Bert Sirkin
Chief Technology Officer
Cipher Systems LLC